

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	Confirmation No.:5309
Gary K. Michelson	)	
Serial No.: 10/802,906	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
Filed: March 17, 2004	)	Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer
For: ORTHOPEDIC IMPLANT WITH	)	
LOCKING ELEMENT (as amended)	)	

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the non-U.S. patent document is enclosed.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.


If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: August 30, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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Substitute for FORM PTO-1449			Attorney Docket Number 101.0058-03000		Customer No. 22882	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION			Applicant Gary K. Michelson		Application Number 10/802,906	
(Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>			Filing Date March 17, 2004		Group Art Unit 3733	Examiner R. Shaffer
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,662,655	9/1997	Laboureau et al.			
	6,152,927	10/2000	Farris et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	CA 2 144 353	10/1995	Canada			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						